

/89 cont. /

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[622] owned, with the exception of his vesture, which is inherited
[422] by his son, who carries on in power. /90/

Over the cacique's grave they build a small rancho of palm leaves, as a mark of distinction.

622 Cóchómonety or Cacique. The power of the cacique falls
[852] from fathers to sons. When the first son or daughter of the
cacique is born, the latter, a few moments later, breathes into
the mouth of the newborn, which signifies that at the age of
15, approximately, he will receive power and will be ordained
to caciqueship, following his father in power as soon as the
622 latter dies. When the heirs reach the age of 15, the cacique
527 holds a big fiesta, for this calling together all the caciques
[622] of the other aldeas. Dressed in a simple julata and with his
[302] entire body painted in divers colors, the boy being honored is
surrounded by all the invited caciques, who form a closed
circle and go around and around the young man, singing for a
period of two to three hours.

When this ceremony has ended they go on to eat and drink
and the fiesta lasts from two to four days, that is, until the
food and drinks are exhausted.

821 Astronomy. Each new moon is a month and 14 moons
[845] are a year. The sun is called paphúty; the moon calipahú-
quethy; the month paphuyty; the stars perphaty; the sky
pipháty; the earth piphétyó.

361 Aldeas. In the municipio of Miranda there exist approxi-
[162] mately from 12,000 to 14,000 Terena Indians and a large
[114] number of aldeas, among which I cite only those that I visited,
[103] the main ones being those called: Agachy, Boquehina, Marro,
[342] Marrinho, Ipeque, Santa Ana, and Caytapé. All the aldeas
show the same type of construction, which is rustic, the houses
or ranchos consisting of thin walls of bamboo with a roof of straw
or palm leaves. One aldea differs from another only in the
greater or lesser number of ranchos.

[342] Agachy Aldea. This aldea has 26 ranchos, the largest be-
[162] ing from 8 to 10 meters long by 3 to 5 meters wide; it is in-
[621] habited by 367 Indians.